



New England Agricultural Statistics Service

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United States Department of Agriculture

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A special "THANK YOU" goes to New England producers and agri-businesses who have helped us by completing surveys via mail, telephone or personal interviews. This issue contains the results of monthly & quarterly surveys including the Milk Production, Layer & Egg Production, Potato Stocks & Prices and Livestock Slaughter Surveys.

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POTATO STOCKS: Maine potato stocks on hand March 1, 2000 totaled 9.4 million hundredweight (cwt.), 11 percent above 1999's March 1 holdings. Disappearance to March 1 in the state totaled 8.4 million cwt., compared with 9.6 million cwt. a year earlier. Storage accounted for 53 percent of Maine's total production, compared with the previous 5-year average of 49 percent.

The 15 major fall potato states held 170 million cwt on March 1, 2000, down 2 percent from a year ago and 3 percent below two years ago. Storage accounted for 40 percent of fall production, down 1 percentage point from a year ago.

Disappearance in the 15 fall states from the start of harvest to March 1 totaled 251 million cwt this season, up slightly from last year and 5 percent above two years ago. February disappearance of 35.7 million cwt was 1 percent below last year and down 3 percent from two years ago. Seasonal shrink and loss of 25.7 million cwt was up 1 percent from last year and 20 percent above two years ago.

Processing of 1999 crop potatoes so far this season totaled 126 million cwt, down 2 percent from the 1998 crop but 6 percent above the 1997 crop. In February, processors used 19.6 million cwt of potatoes, up 1 percent from the last two years.

MILK PRODUCTION: Milk production in Vermont totaled 217 million pounds in February, 9 percent below the previous month,

but 4 percent above production in February 1999. Milk cows on Vermont farms averaged 159,000 head in February, 2 percent below the previous February. Daily output per cow increased from February 1999 by one pound to 47 pounds per cow in February 2000.

LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER: Commercial cattle slaughter during 1999 totaled 24,900 head, down 9 percent from 1998. Average live weight of cattle slaughtered commercially in 1999 was 1,063 pounds, down 5 pounds from 1998. Calf slaughter was down 22 percent, to 40,900 head. Average live weight of calves slaughtered commercially was 132 pounds, up 8 pounds from the previous year. In 1999, 29,200 hogs were slaughtered in New England, an increase of 2,800 head over 1998 slaughter numbers. The average live weight of hogs slaughtered was 259 pounds, 6 pounds higher than 1998. Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter totaled 24,400 head, 1,900 head more than the previous year. The average live weight for sheep and lambs increased 2 pounds to 100 pounds per head.

This is a monthly summary of New England agricultural statistics taken from nationwide reports issued by USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service over the past few weeks. All national reports and state-level newsletters are available on the Internet.

National Reports can be ordered by calling 1-800-999-6779.

How can you get these reports electronically?

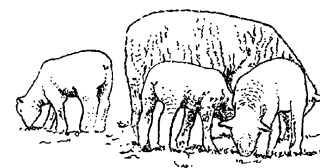
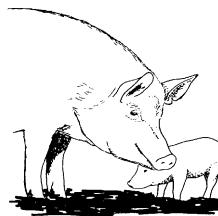
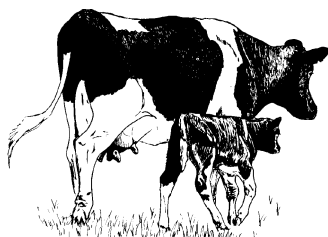
* All national reports and state newsletters are available on the Internet.

* For free national e-mail reports, send a message to:

usda-reports@usda.mannlib.cornell.edu and in the body, type: **lists**

* For free state newsletters, such as this, send a message to:

nass-state-releases@news.usda.gov and in the body, type:
subscribe new-eng-all-reports OR **lists** for other states.



FALL POTATOES: Production and March 1 Stocks^{1/}, 1999 - 2000

STATE	1998 Crop			1999 Crop		
	Production	Stocks Mar 1, 1999	Stocks as % of Prod	Production	Stocks Mar 1, 2000	Stocks as % of Prod
	1,000 Cwt		Percent	1,000 Cwt		Percent
California	3,708	1,600	43	4,005	1,800	45
Colorado	25,360	12,000	47	25,762	12,900	50
Idaho	138,000	66,000	48	133,330	65,000	49
Maine	18,060	8,450	47	17,813	9,400	53
Michigan	14,648	4,100	28	14,963	4,200	28
Minnesota	21,170	8,900	42	18,020	6,200	34
Montana	3,180	2,650	83	3,325	2,700	81
Nebraska	8,175			8,904		
New York	7,290	800	11	6,758	800	12
North Dakota	28,670	12,800	45	26,400	8,300	31
Ohio	1,200			987		
Oregon	26,229	13,000	50	28,020	15,900	57
Pennsylvania	3,360	700	21	3,080	750	24
Washington	93,225	29,500	32	95,200	28,000	29
Wisconsin	30,895	11,000	36	34,000	11,700	34
Other States		2,150			2,400	
15 STATES	423,170	173,650	41	420,567	170,050	40

^{1/} Reliability of the stocks estimate is 3.8 percent. This means chances are 2 out of 3 the current estimate will not be above or below the final estimate by more than 3.8 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 the difference will not exceed 6.5 percent.

^{2/} Blank States combined into "Other States".

SOURCE: **Potato Stocks**, 3:00 pm, March 14, 2000, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA

MAINE POTATOES: Prices Received, 1994 - 1999 Crop Years

CROP YEAR	Prices Received ^{1/} by Farmers for All Potatoes, Monthly and Marketing Year Average										
	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	Market Year Average
	Dollars Per Cwt										
1994	5.65	4.85	5.25	5.70	6.00	6.20	6.25	6.60	6.70	6.15	6.10
1995	5.55	5.25	5.85	6.25	6.25	6.30	6.30	6.60	6.85	7.05	6.40
1996	5.20	4.70	4.90	4.35	4.35	4.65	4.50	4.75	5.05	4.55	4.60
1997	8.10	5.65	5.70	6.10	6.30	6.10	6.35	6.55	6.95	6.75	6.40
1998	6.25	5.40	5.70	5.85	5.90	6.15	6.45	6.90	7.45	7.05	6.45
1999 ^{2/}	5.90	5.30	5.50	6.30	6.40	6.25	6.45				

^{1/} Average price of potatoes sold for fresh market, processing, seed and feed ^{2/} Most recent monthly price is a preliminary mid-month forecast.

SOURCE: **Agricultural Prices**, 3:00 pm, February 29, 2000, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

COMMERCIAL^{1/} LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER: Plants, January 1, 1999 & 2000,
Number Slaughtered and Weight, New England, 1998 - 1999

SPECIES	Livestock Slaughter Plants, Jan. 1				Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	Under Federal Inspection		Other							
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999
	Number				1,000 Head		1,000 Pounds		Pounds	
Cattle	--	--	--	--	27.5	24.9	29,379	26,493	1,068	1,063
Calves	--	--	--	--	52.4	40.9	6,484	5,414	124	132
Hogs	--	--	--	--	26.4	29.2	6,672	7,555	253	259
Sheep & Lambs	--	--	--	--	22.5	24.4	2,210	2,442	98	100
All Species	30	31	37	38	--	--	--	--	--	--

^{1/} Includes slaughter in Federally inspected and other slaughter plants. Excludes farm slaughter.

SOURCE: **Livestock Slaughter - Annual**, 3:00 pm, March 5, 2000, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

MONTHLY MILK: Number of Cows and Production, February 2000 with comparisons

STATE	Milk Cows ^{1/}			Production per Cow			Production		
	Feb 1999	Jan 2000	Feb 2000	Feb 1999	Jan 2000	Feb 2000	Feb 1999	Jan 2000	Feb 2000
	1,000 Head			Pounds			Million Pounds		
Vermont	162	160	159	1,290	1,485	1,365	209	238	217
New York	702	700	700	1,320	1,450	1,370	927	1,015	959
Pennsylvania	615	617	617	1,375	1,520	1,475	846	938	910
U.S. ^{2/}	7,696	7,765	7,768	1,404	1,578	1,505	10,804	12,256	11,692

^{1/} Average number for the month, including dry cows

^{2/} U.S. includes only 20 major states: AZ CA FL ID IL IN IA KY MI MN MO NM NY OH PA TX VT VA WA WI.

SOURCE: **Milk Production**, 3:00 pm, March 16, 2000, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

MONTHLY MILK: Average Price Received and Fat Test, February 2000 with comparisons

STATE ^{4/}	All Milk Price ^{1/}			Fat Test		
	February 1999	January 2000	February 2000 ^{2/}	February 1999	January 2000	February 2000 ^{2/}
	Dollars Per Cwt			Percent		
Connecticut	16.80	-	-	3.67	-	-
Maine	16.60	-	-	3.75	-	-
Massachusetts	17.10	-	-	3.77	-	-
New Hampshire	17.00	-	-	3.80	-	-
Rhode Island	17.10	-	-	3.81	-	-
Vermont	16.70	13.50	13.30	3.78	3.78	3.76
NEW ENGLAND	16.75	-	-	3.76	-	-
U.S. ^{3/}	15.50	12.00	11.80	3.74	3.79	3.75

^{1/} Before deductions for hauling and government withholding. Includes bulk-tanks, quantity and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies.

^{2/} Most recent monthly price and butterfat test are preliminary mid-month forecasts.

^{3/} U.S. includes only 20 major states: AZ CA FL ID IL IN IA KY MI MN MO NM NY OH PA TX VT VA WA WI.

^{4/} Due to the Federal Market Order Reform, NASS is only able to publish milk prices for the 20 states which are part of the national program at this time. Statistics for the other New England states will be published as soon as they become available.

SOURCE: **Agricultural Prices**, 3:00 pm, February 29, 2000, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

MONTHLY DAIRY PRODUCTS: New England Production, January 2000 with comparisons

PRODUCT	January 1999	December 1999	January 2000	January 2000 as percent of:	
				January	December
				1999	1999
	1,000 Pounds			Percent	
Butter	4,186	3,038	3,717	89	122
American Type Cheese ^{1/}	4,232	3,530	5,756	136	163
Mozzarella Cheese	3,119	4,697	5,615	180	120
Other Italian Cheese ^{2/}	454	657	500	110	76
Cottage Cheese ^{3/}	443	451	486	110	108
	1,000 Gallons			Percent	
Ice Cream, Hard	6,748	5,303	6,682	99	126
Low Fat Ice Cream, Hard	624	698	463	74	66
Milk Sherbet, Hard	220	215	150	68	70

^{1/} American Type Cheese includes cheddars, Colby, washed curd, stirred curd, Monterey and Jack.

^{2/} Includes all Italian cheese except Mozzarella.

^{3/} Creamed and lowfat

SOURCE of NATIONAL PRODUCTION: **Dairy Products**, 3:00 pm, March 2, 2000, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

MONTHLY CHICKENS: Layers and Egg Production, January, 1999 - 2000

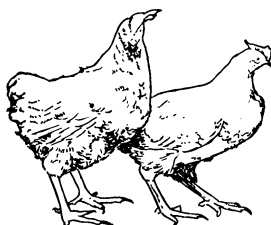
STATE	Table Egg Layers in Flocks 30,000 and Above		All Layers ^{1/}		Eggs per 100 for All Layers ^{1/}		Egg Production from All Layers ^{1/}	
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000
	1,000 Birds				Number		Million Eggs	
Connecticut	2,943	2,980	3,126	3,114	2,303	2,344	72	73
Maine	4,947	4,226	5,064	4,333	2,468	2,400	125	104
U.S.	257,330	264,088	322,326	328,578	2,165	2,176	6,979	7,150

^{1/} Includes all layers and eggs produced in both table egg and hatching egg flocks regardless of size.

SOURCE: **Chickens & Eggs**, 3:00 pm, February 22, 2000, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA

MONTHLY CHICKENS: Hatchery Production,
January 1999 - 2000

REGION	Broiler-Type Chicks		Egg-Type Chicks	
	Hatched during January			
	1999	2000	1999	2000
	1,000 Birds			
NEW ENGLAND	687	509	740	697
U.S.	735,348	749,375	35,653	34,125



SOURCE: **Chickens & Eggs**, 3:00 pm, February 22, 2000, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA

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